Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 08230 250024Z ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-07 OMB-01 SS-15 AGRE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 /074 W

R 250021Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2358 DEAHOS WASHDC

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DEAHQS FOR EN/CASEY

EO 11652: N/A TAGS: SNAR/MX

SUBJECT: NEWLY DISCOVERED POPPY FIELDS

REF: LOU MEXICO 15039

- 1. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OBTAINED RELATIVE TO POPPY FIELDS DISCOVERED NEAR NACORI CHICO, SONORA.
- 2. A TOTAL OF 14 FIELDS RANGING FROM ONE ACRE TO 15 ACRES WERE DISCOVERED AND DESTROYED BY MEXICAN OFFICIALS. THIS INVOLVED APPROXIMATELY FIFTY ACRES OF POPPY PLANTS.
- 3. THE FIELDS WERE LOCATED IN A VERY REMOTE PART OF SONORA AT APPROXIMATELY 3,000 FOOT ELEVATION. SOME WERE FLOWERING AND ALL WERE APPROXIMATELY 3 FEET HIGH.
- 4. FIVE OF THE FIELDS HAD BEEN SCORED AND GUM RESIDUE ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BULBS INDICATED THAT OPIUM GUM HAD BEEN COLLECTED. SOME OF THE SCORED FIELDS CONTAINED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 08230 250024Z

DRIED PLANTS INDICATING GUM COLLECTION OCCURRED SOMETIME IN THE PAST. DRIED PLANTS SHOWED THEY HAD BEEN SCORED TWICE.

5. OTHER FIELDS SHOWED THAT THEY HAD BEEN SCORED ONE TIME VERY RECENTLY AS GUM HAD ACCUMULATED ON BULBS AND HAD NOT YET BEEN COLLECTED.

- 6. FOUR OF THE FIELDS CONSISTED OF POPPY AND MARIHUANA
 PLANTED IN ALTERNATE ROWS. VARIOUS FIELDS WERE PLANTED IN
 ROWS AS OPPOSED TO THE BROADCAST METHOD.
 7. ONE FIELD WAS LOCATED NEAR AN IRRIGATION DITCH AND
 TWO HUNDRED FEET OF IRRIGATION HOSE WAS FOUND NEARBY.
- 8. THE PLANTS OBSERVED AT CLOSE RANGE AVERAGED SIX BULBS EACH.
- 9. THE MEXICAN SPRAY HELICOPTERS HAVE LEFT THE AREA. THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES HAVE PROMISED THAT THEY WOULD RETURN IF THE DEA RECONNAISSANCE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN 5-26-77 LOCATED ADDITIONAL FIELDS.
- 10. FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW. THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Control Number: n/a

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Subject: NEWLY DISCOVERED POPPY FIELDS TAGS: SNAR, EPAP, MX
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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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